STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
SIDDHARTA

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Tuesday 24th March 2020
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Visit: www.starofmysore.com

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR

Echo of Corona Lockdown in Karnataka till March 31

Lathi-wielding Cops patrol city

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (RK&DM)- The entire city of Mysuru wore a completely deserted look today on the second day of the lock-down announced by the State Government to stop the spread of the deadly COVID-19.

The State Government on Sunday night had announced lockdown in nine COVID-19 affected districts, including Mysuru. But on Monday, the Government extended the lockdown to the entire State till Mar.31.

Barring milk, vegetables, fruits shops, medical shops, grocery shops, petrol bunks, some Government offices, Banks, ATMs and such other emergency services, all other commercial activities have come to a grinding halt in the city, following strict enforcement of lockdown.

As part of enforcement of the lockdown, Police have set up check-posts on all entry and exit roads of the city — Nanjangud Road, Hunsur Road, Manandavadi Road (H.D. Kote Road), KRS Road, T. Narasipur Road, Bannur Road, Bengaluru Road and Mahadevapura Road — to prevent people from travelling.

The Police were seen wielding lathi on motorists who ventured on to the roads for unnecessary errands. As part of lockdown enforcement, the City and District Police have ordered Curfew under Section 144(3) of Cr.PC, which has forced people to stay indoors.

Ugadi shoppers

But tomorrow being Ugadi, one of the most important festival of the State, people were seen standing in queues in front of vegetables, fruits and grocery shops to make purchases. The Police were seen regulating the customers in order to ensure that there was no crowding.

The Police were also seen making regular announcements through Public Address Systems fitted atop Department vehicles, asking the people to co-operate with the lockdown by staying indoors.

Even as the city remains completely shut, the MCC is utilising the opportunity to fumigate roads and lanes. The MCC Pourakarmikas were also seen sanitising some frequently visited Bank ATMs by spraying disinfectants.

Meanwhile, the Health Department is taking care of all persons who are under Quarantine at the New District Hospital on KRS Road and also those who are Home-Quarantined.

The Mysuru District Administration has drawn staff from various Departments, including MCC, MUDA, Agriculture, Horticulture, Revenue and RDPR, for effective enforcement of the lockdown. Already, all public transport including Railway services have been suspended till Mar.31. However, Goods Trains and vehicles transporting essential commodities have been allowed to ply.

At K.R. Hospital

K.R. Hospital staff were not allowing anyone inside the Hospital except for emergency cases. Many people, in particular villagers were totally clueless as they could not either stay at the hospital or return to their villages as there was no transportation available. Indira Canteen in the Hospital premises served breakfast (idli and pulav) for Rs. 5 but most of the customers were Hospital staff.

Devaraja Market

People had gathered at Devaraja Market to purchase vegetables and fruits, but the crowd was thin and buyers had to pay more prices for vegetables.

One kilo of beans was Rs. 80, carrot Rs. 80, beetroot Rs. 40, lady's finger Rs. 60 and capsicum Rs. 50. Flowers such as chrysanthemum was also high at Rs. 50 to 80 a metre and one kilo of yelakki banana was Rs. 50 to 70.

Transgenders stay indoors

The Coronavirus Pandemic has forced hundreds of transgenders, who used to seek alms from the public at Bus Stands, Railway Stations and such other public joints and junctions, to stay indoors.

The city-based Ashodaya Samiti, which has hundreds of members from transgender and sexual minority communities, has paid Rs. 3,000 each to over 80 of its members as advance to buy ration and other essential commodities in the wake of the lockdown.

The Samiti which covers the transgender community from Mysuru, Mandya, Kodagu and Chikkamagalur districts is doing its bit to stop the spread of the deadly Coronavirus, by conducting awareness programmes for the past few days, according to the Samiti Secretary Bhagyalakshmi.

NO DOMESTIC FLIGHTS: There will be no flight operations from Mysore Airport from mid-night today till Mar.31, according to Airport Director R. Manjunath.

To Our Readers

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800

Karnataka Helpline number: 104

Central Helpline number:
011-23978046

Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

NOTE: *Don't panic if you have cold, cough or fever. Consult your nearest Government doctor* ***only in case of emergency.*** *If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, the doctor will refer you to K.R. Hospital where Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratory will test samples.* ***No private hospital is authorised to conduct COVID-19 tests.*** *—Ed*

PM to address nation at 8 pm today

New Delhi, Mar. 24 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be addressing the nation on "vital aspects relating to menace of COVID-19" at 8 pm today.

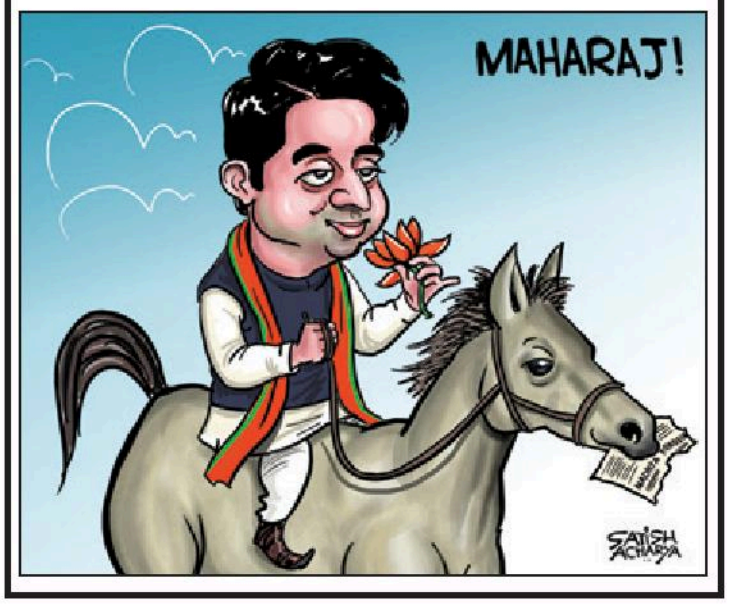
SOM offices closed till Mar. 31

Our offices will remain closed from Mar. 24, 2020 to Mar. 31, 2020 in the wake of Karnataka lockdown. Hence, there will be no issues of ***Star of Mysore*** *till Mar. 31, 2020.*

— **Management**

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya



STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."
Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.
Editor-in-Chief K.B. Ganapathy B.A.; B.L.
Mysuru, Tuesday 24th March 2020

Trial by fire

The expression *Trial by Fire*, a test of one's abilities to perform well under pressure alluding to the medieval practice of determining a person's guilt by having him undergo an ordeal such as walking barefoot through a fire flashes through one's mind in the ongoing ordeal of humanity across the world first to survive fatal consequence of the virus and next to stop its unabated spread by complying with the advisory to keep social distance from others, cover the mouth with face mask, avoid crowding, travel only if unavoidable, wash hands frequently with soap, use alcohol-based sanitiser for cleaning hands, stick to vegetarian food, maintain hygiene in living spaces, greet with folded hands (*namaste*) instead of handshake, drink safe water and so on, every one of these measures being not the part of daily life of a majority in the country's population. Changing the all-too-familiar customary habits contrasting with any of the above measures, particularly by residents in cities with excessive density of population, is not the cup of tea as it were among the majority of even the literati, not to speak of the residents of slums, Mysuru too qualifying to face the trial by fire at present.

The example of Dharavi, known as Asia's most populated slum in Mumbai, with a headcount more than that of Mysuru city, living in an area of about 620 acres leaves very little doubt about its residents complying with any of the above-mentioned measures being widely publicised in the country. Most families in the slum reportedly host five to eight members sharing a 10x10 sq.ft room, while WHO norm is 20 sq.ft area per person. The slum is said to be sitting on a time bomb.

Top brass in successive Governments, including those garnering votes that gets them victory in elections and plum posts in the Cabinet of Ministers take fascination to talk of *developing* slums, most of which host victims of many diseases, particularly tuberculosis and gastro-intestinal illnesses, apart from not having proper ventilation, light and other basic civic facilities such as safe water, sewage drains, toilets and so on. Prescribing social distancing to the slum dwellers is a cruel joke being hurled at them. While stress is said to reduce immunity, strangely the immunity level of Dharavi residents is said to be robust. The nation's Prime Minister has pleaded with the masses to exercise restraint and resolve to fight the virus on all fronts. Given the penchant of the land's people at large not to change their strong and habitual tendency of ignoring every law framed in their interest, time has come to think afresh about measures to overcome hardships in crisis situations other than what have already been prescribed.

Ahead of the country's diaspora imbibing the sense of discipline in their life, both individually and community wise, a pipe dream of sorts, the least they are required to do is to fall in line with the do's and don'ts already before them and come unscathed in their trial by fire.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

FOOD FOR THE ISOLATED: ***Breakfast at 7.30 am with dosa-sambar, two eggs, two oranges, tea, a litre of mineral water; fruit juice at 10.30 am; lunch comprises two chapatis, rice, fish fry, thoran (a dry side dish), curry, curd, a litre of mineral water; tea, biscuits/banana chips/vada at 3.30 pm; appam and vegetable stew, two bananas and a litre of mineral water at dinner time. No, this is not the menu at a tourist resort in Kerala, but the food that is being served to local residents in the isolation ward of the Government Medical College, Ernakulam, in Kalamassery, where Coronavirus-infected people have been quarantined. Foreign tourists in the isolation ward are served soup, fruits and two boiled eggs for breakfast; a helping of pineapple juice at 11 am; lunch comprises cheese sandwich and fruits and the dinner menu is toasted bread, scrambled eggs and fruits. The kids' meal includes milk as well. Also, breakfast is served with a newspaper to quench their thirst for news and analysis.*** — *In Business Standard*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Granny decorates her house with plastic bottle caps

Makarye: A pensioner from the Russian village of Makarye, around 850 kilometres east of Moscow, identified as Nina Krinitsina, has been decorating her modest house with colourful bottle cap mosaics for the last seven years.

The granny, who currently has over thirty plastic mosaics nailed to the walls of her house – some numbering over 1,000 bottle caps – was originally encouraged by her nephew. He would provide her with grid designs downloaded from the internet and she would piece them together. She used peas at first, but quickly switched to a more suitable material – plastic bottle caps. She obviously needed quite a stock of caps of various colours to create all the designs and she didn't shy away from visiting the local landfill in search of them.

Artist uses black paper, white and grey pencils to draw women in light

London: Looking at English artist Zulf's portraits, you get the sense that they're really simplistic in nature. What makes these works unique is the concept of light being cast on part of the protagonists' faces, which only reveals part of their visage, letting the viewer imagine the rest. To achieve the magical, almost surreal effect, Zulf works on black paper, using white and grey pencils to draw the silhouettes of the protagonists. This creates the illusion of light being cast on certain parts of their bodies.

Zulf admitted that, like most of his artworks, he likes to keep an air of mystery about him, which is why he prefers to use his pseudonym rather than his real name. He did reveal that his is "shy of turning 50" and living in London with his wife and two children.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

What blood pressure drug produces the most side-effects?

That distinction goes to Lisinopril, an ace inhibitor. It is also sold under the names Prinivil and Zentril. Lisinopril brought 406,180 complaints to the FDA in under 10 years. Lisinopril side-effects include: Nausea, vomiting, fainting, kidney failure and edema.

**Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

Mysore Varsity declares holiday to all staff

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (KS)- In a bid to prevent Coronavirus from spreading, University of Mysore (UoM) has declared holiday for its teaching and non-teaching staff from Mar.23 to Mar.31, said Varsity Registrar Prof. R. Shivappa who added that the holidays were declared following instructions from the State Government asking them to declare holidays to all colleges coming under the University limits.

UoM asks students to use digital education platform

Mysuru, Mar. 24- With the University of Mysore (UoM) declaring a long-holiday for students in the wake of COVID-19 scare, the University's Educational Multi-Media Research Centre (EMRC) has urged the students to study from the safety of their homes by reaching on the digital education platform being provided by the Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC). While being at home, the students should connect with the CEC digital educational platforms for the course-ware available as below:

• E-content course-ware in 87 undergraduate subjects available on CEC website.

• 11 subject based SWAYAM Prabha DTH Channels available on DD free dish, Dish TV and Reliance Jio mobile app. These channels are providing curriculum based educational programmes including live lectures in various higher education subjects which include Humanities, Science, Management, Professional Courses, Computer Science and Indian and Classical Music.

• UG and PG MOOCs which were earlier delivered on SWAYAM Platform are being archived and may be accessed by any learner on: *http://ugcmoocs.inflibnet.ac.in/ugcmoocs/*

• Besides, students can also go to CEC-UGC YouTube Channel and make use of unlimited educational curriculum based lectures absolutely free that could help them keep pace with academics at this hour of distress.

For details, visit: *http://cec.nic.in*, according to a press release.

Really...?

- ***My six-year-old loved his pet fish. He watched and fed it faithfully, morning and night. But one day while he was in school, his fish died, so I flushed it down the toilet. I told him when he got home, and he was inconsolable. Nothing I said helped. After a while, I asked, "Why are you crying so much?" Arching his back, he shouted, "I wanted to flush!"***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

***Raju** bought a heavy item from the bazaar. He turned to a porter and said, "Take this to my house." The porter inquired, "Okay, where is it?"*
***"Are you crazy?" Raju replied.** "I don't know you; you might be a criminal for all I know; I would be foolish to tell you where my house is !!"*

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 76.19
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 88.81
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.74
1 Euro	= Rs. 82.43

VOICE OF THE READER

Pathetic condition of Freedom Fighters Park

Sir,

The authorities who are entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the Freedom Fighters Park in the heart of the city have been negligent for a long time, whether it is MCC, MUDA or Horticulture Department. As a result, this Park has become a garbage dumping yard.

If one takes a walk around, one can notice heaps of wastes, plastic covers, other garbage lying on the Northeast corner, Southeast corner, Western side, North-western side and middle of the Park.

Besides, miscreants burn the wastes all around causing air pollution and other environment damage and health hazards.

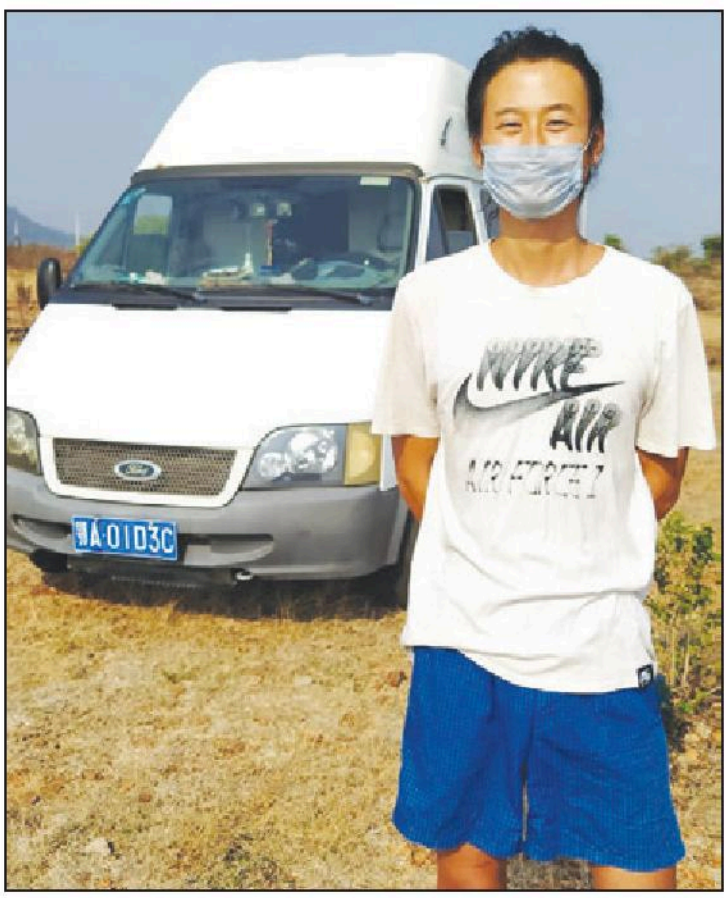
The two or three watchmen on duty are unable to prevent any of these nuisances. The good-old Western and Northern compounds of the Park are not of adequate height to prevent misusing the Park for throwing garbage and using as open toilet.

The Northern side compound wall is in a collapsed condition. I had sent the photos and videos of the pathetic conditions of this Park to our Corporator who is active and keen to attend to problems of public interest and has assured to develop the Park with MLA Funds. But our MCC Health Officers, who are supposed to undertake clean up operations have not taken any action so far to remove the garbage and other waste materials in the Park.

I request the MCC Commissioner to look into this himself and ensure prompt action. This well-known Freedom Fighters Park can't be used as Garbage Collection Centre or as Public Urinal.

—Sukumar Sharma,
Social Activist
Mysuru
18.3.2020

Chinese man and girlfriend camping near Lalitha Mahal Palace Ground draw public attention



Mysuru, Mar. 24 (MTY&DM)- A Chinese man and his girlfriend from India, who have been camping in a Caravan vehicle along with a pet dog near Lalitha Mahal Palace Ground, for the past eight days, have caught the attention of the residents of Giridarshini Layout located close to the spot, because the man is from China, the epicentre of COVID-19.

Batrick, a Chinese national in his early thirties, who came to India in his Caravan vehicle with valid documents a year ago, befriended a woman by name Bijiya, when he toured Manipur about six months back.

Batrick, who is in Karnataka for the last three months, was touring different parts of Karnataka, when the State became Coronavirus hit with the death of a man at Kalaburagi.

Batrick who arrived in his Caravan vehicle along with his girlfriend Bijiya and a pet dog, chose a spot near Lalitha Mahal Palace Ground, as he considered it a safe place. His Caravan vehicle is designed to have all the facilities available at a home, such as a kitchen, toilet and a resting enclosure.

Although the public cared little in the first few days, their suspicion and anxiety grew when Batrick did not leave the spot. They informed the jurisdictional Nazarbad Police about a Chinese man camping in his Caravan vehicle.

The Police, after visiting the spot, informed the Health authorities, who thoroughly screened Batrick and his girl friend Bijiya for Coronavirus. The authorities heaved a sigh of relief, when medical reports tested negative for Coronavirus and that the two were hale and healthy.

The public too, who were initially hesitant to go near Batrick because of Coronavirus scare, later became friendly with him and started meeting him often.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Bijiya said that they too were very scared in the beginning as they expected the local people to target them. But after the Health authorities declared them hale and healthy after carrying out a thorough screening, there was marked change in the mindset of locals, who later became friendly with them, she noted.

"We used to visit the city market daily for purchase of groceries. Batrick has come to India with all legal documents and as such there is no cause of worry for them. Mysuru is one of the safest places in the country and we are very much impressed by the city's beauty and splendour," she said.

When asked why they did not prefer to stay in a lodge, Bijiya said that Batrick's Caravan vehicle has all the facilities and comforts of a home and as such they found no need to look for a lodge or any other boarding facility.

Asserting that their stay posed no threat or problems to localites, she said that local people had become friendly and supportive and as such they are finding the place more safer.

When asked about the duration of their stay in Mysuru, she said that they will decide in a few days upon watching the situation then.

Government employees aged over 50 years get holiday

Bengaluru, Mar.24- Even as the State Government announced a week-long complete lockdown across the State to stop the spread of the deadly Coronavirus, the State Government, in a gesture to its senior employees, said that all employees aged over 50 years and those who are suffering from various medical ailments, can avail holiday till Apr.4.

Such sick employees who opt to say at a safer zone, have to produce a medical certificate to avail the holiday.

BJP Mysuru Rural District unit

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (KS)- The following have been appointed as the new office-bearers of the BJP Mysuru Rural District unit:

Vice-Presidents: Dasaiah (T. Narasipur), Raju Gowda (Periyapatna), Kendagannappa (Nanjangud), Siddaveerappa (Varuna), Surya Kumar (Hunsur), Sunandamma (H.D. Kote), Madhu Subbanna (Nanjangud) and Shwetha Gopal (K.R. Nagar).

General Secretaries: B. Mahadeva Nandeesh (Chamundeshwari), Mahesh Madawadi (T. Narasipur) and Yoganandakumar (Hunsur).

Secretaries: Gorur Shivakumar (Chamundeshwari), Basavaraju (T. Narasipur), Vedaraj (Chamundeshwari), Vinayak Prasad (H.D. Kote), Bhagyashree Bhat (Chamundeshwari), Annapoorna Rangaswamy (Varuna), Mamatha Hitne Bagilu (Periyapatna) and Neha Naina (Chamundeshwari).

Treasurer: Rajendra (Hunsur); **District Spokesperson:** Srinivas Gowda (K.R. Nagar); **Co-Spokespersons:** Girish (H.D. Kote) and K. Vasanth Kumar (Periyapatna).

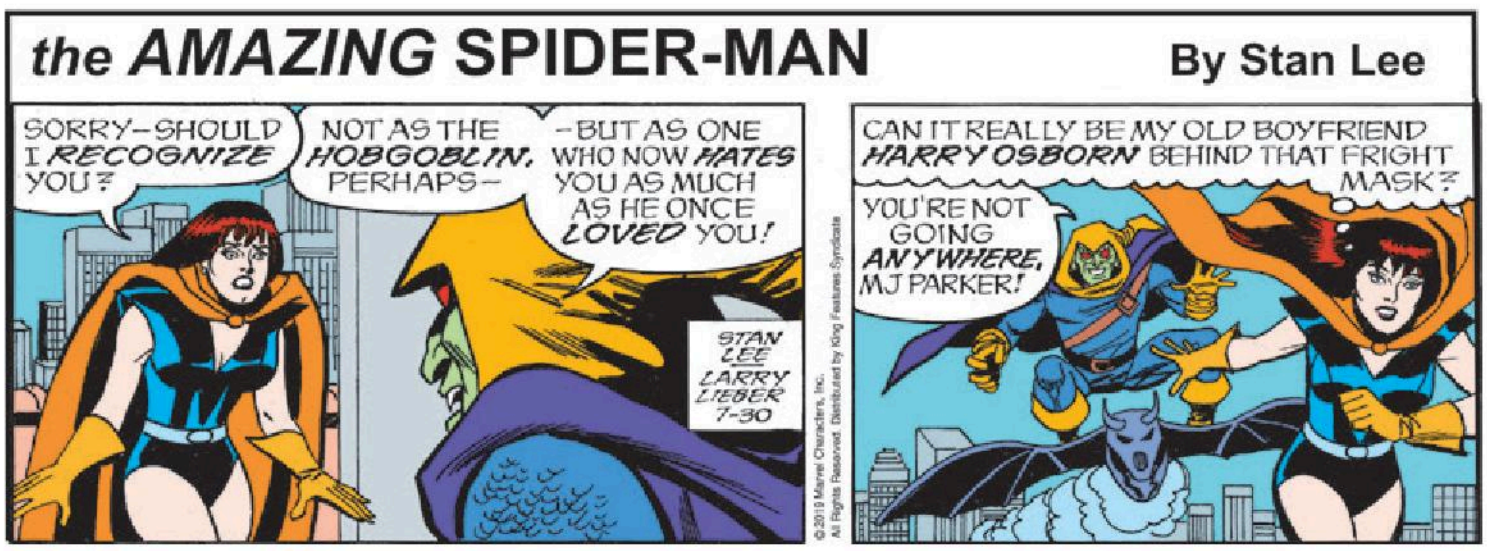
Following are the Presidents of various Morchas:

Farmer Morcha: Ramesh Kumar (Hunsur); **Backward Classes Morcha:** Parashuramappa (Chamundeshwari); **Yuva Morcha:** H.M. Vijay Kumar (H.D. Kote); **SC Morcha:** C.M. Mahadevaiah (Varuna); **ST Morcha:** Siddanayak (H.D. Kote); **Minority Morcha:** Ilyas Ahmed and **Mahila Morcha:** Bhagyalakshmi (H.D. Kote), according to a press release from Mysuru District BJP President S.D. Mahendra.

Appointed as Notary

Mysuru, Mar. 24- City advocate **H.N. Varija** has been appointed as a Notary by the Government of India and is authorised to practice as such throughout Mysuru district for a period of five years.

Varija is a resident of Vinayakanagar in city.


the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
By Stan Lee
SORRY—SHOULD I RECOGNIZE YOU?
NOT AS THE HOBGOBLIN, PERHAPS—
—BUT AS ONE WHO NOW HATES YOU AS MUCH AS HE ONCE LOVED YOU!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
7-30
CAN IT REALLY BE MY OLD BOYFRIEND HARRY OSBORN BEHIND THAT FRIGHT MASK?
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE, MJ PARKER!
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Huge response from city youths to become 'Corona Warriors'

Mysuru, Mar. 24- With fake news regarding the spread of COVID-19 found in circulation in social media networks and mobile applications, the State Government has started online registration of youth volunteers to serve as 'Corona Warriors' in order to put an end to the circulation of fake news.

Addressing a gathering of volunteers at his office on Dhanvantri Road here on Saturday, Information and Public Relations Department Assistant Director R. Raju said that the spread of fake news regarding Coronavirus was posing a hurdle to the functioning of all concerned Government Departments.

As such, the Government decided to appoint youths as volunteers who are called 'Corona Warriors,' following which online registrations began. There was a huge response from city youths for working as Corona Warriors and join hands with the Government for educating the public on true facts and to check misinformation regarding the spread of the virus. Highlighting the tasks of the volunteers, he said that four 'Corona Warriors' have been appointed in every taluk of each district in the State and these volunteers will work in co-ordination with officials from other Departments.

Bemoaning the spread of fake news that there are no Corona concerns, Raju said that people must ignore such fake news and be alert to follow Government regulations in place to stop the spread of the virus. Pointing out that India is a country with a population of over 125 crore, he said that the Government has initiated all possible measures to stop the spread of the virus as any further spread will have huge ramifications on the health sector of the country. He appealed the public to co-operate with the Government in the fight against the deadly disease.

Mahadevappa of Red Cross Society said that a door-to-door awareness campaign has been launched with volunteers distributing pamphlets to every household in an effort to stop the circulation of fake news. Pointing out that all volunteers will be distributed an Identity card, he asked the volunteers not to misuse the card for any purpose.

Noted film producer Kapali Mohan commits suicide

Kapali Mohan

Bengaluru, Mar. 24 - Noted financier and film producer, Kapali Mohan committed suicide at his own hotel near Peenya in Bengaluru in the wee hours of Monday.

V.K. Mohan, known as Kapali Mohan (59), was a resident of Sadashivanagar and was very close to the family of late actor Dr. Rajkumar. He was suffering from huge financial crisis as he revealed through videos he made before taking the extreme step.

It is suspected that Mohan might have committed suicide around 2.30 am on Monday and the incident came to light around 9 am. The hotel staff later alerted the Police who came and broke open the door and found his body, a Police Officer said.

Labourers screened at Hunsur border

Hunsur, Mar. 24 (Mahesh Hanagodu)- With hundreds of labourers travelling in jeeps and other vehicles from Hanagodu region in Hunsur for work in Coffee estates in Kodagu and neighbouring Kerala, Hunsur Taluk Administration has taken measures to screen all of them for COVID-19.

On the first day of the Lockdown yesterday, Dr. Girish of Doddahejjur Primary Health Centre near Veeranahosahalli, coming under Nagarahole National Park, where a check-post has been set up, screened about 500 workers who had come in 42 jeeps, most of whom are from tribal hamlets and recorded their health status, following which some of the workers were allowed to leave for their workplace in Kodagu and Kerala border districts under the supervision of the Forest Department. Out of the 500 workers who underwent screening, those permitted were allowed to travel in 22 jeeps to estates in Kerala and Kodagu, while the rest who were rejected on health grounds, were sent back to their villages in 20 jeeps, upon the order of the Tahsildar.

Meanwhile, with the State Government announcing a lockdown, the Taluk Administration must ensure that there is no movement of labourers from Hanagodu region to Kodagu and Kerala.

More than 500 labourers from Hanagodu region, who are mostly from tribal hamlets, will travel to work daily from Hanagodu to Coffee estates in Titimati, Birunani, Kutta and other places in Kodagu and to Kattikulam in Manandavadi district of Kerala. With the lockdown in place, the Taluk Administration must take measures for halting movement along Karnataka-Kerala border, by distributing ration to tribal people and educate them regarding COVID-19. This will go a long way in checking the spread of virus in Kodagu and Mysuru, from across Kerala border.

MCC locks meat stall for selling meat by defying order

Meat, weighing machines seized; Meat sold at Rs. 800 per kg at city outskirts

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (MTY&KS)- Officials of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), led by the Health Officer, on Sunday conducted raid on a meat shop that was open despite closure orders and seized the meat and weighing machine besides locking it.

Following Coronavirus scare, the District Administration had ordered closure of meat shops from Mar. 21 to 31 as a precautionary measure to prevent the virus from spreading. But despite the closure order, a meat shop at K.G. Koppal was open and was conducting business.

The MCC officials, on being informed, rushed to the spot and ordered the shop owner to close. But the shop owner, who did not heed to the instructions, continued the business which forced the MCC officials to seize the meat and weighing machine and even lock the shop.

Meat sold at exorbitant rate: As meat shops in city were closed, some shops in city outskirts, defying the closure order sold meat at exorbitant rate on Sunday.

Though a kilogram of meat was being sold at Rs. 800 per kg, people were seen thronging the shops to buy meat despite Janata Curfew, which had no effect on them.

Police initiate legal action against man flouting home quarantine order

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (KS)- V.V. Puram Police have initiated legal action against a man, who had returned from abroad and flouted home quarantine order.

The man, who arrived from Australia to Bengaluru in a flight on Mar.22, was stamped on his upper palm and was ordered to undergo 14 days home quarantine till Apr. 6 at his house in V.V. Puram Police limits in city.

But the man flouted the guidelines and roamed freely in public places despite him knowing that he would be spreading the virus.

V.V. Puram Police, who registered a case against him, has initiated legal action against him.

Meanwhile, City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta has warned of initiating legal action against those flouting COVID-19 Home Quarantine orders.

Visit Jayadeva Hospital only if there is emergency

Dr. Sadananda

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (KS)- Medical Superintendent of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research on KRS Road in city Dr. K.S. Sadananda has appealed the patients taking treatment at the hospital to visit the hospital only if there is an emergency.

He has urged the patients, who have to come for general check-up and follow-up visit to postpone their visit to the hospital for 15 days and continue the medicines they are taking.

Obituary

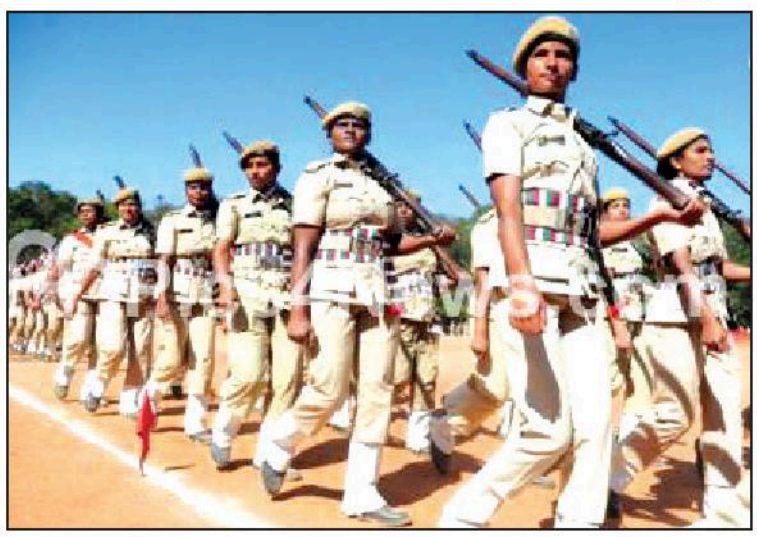
P. Mahadevu

Mysuru, Mar. 24- P. Mahadevu (67), retired Sub-Inspector and a resident of Police Layout in city, passed away yesterday.

He leaves behind his wife, a son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Kollegal this morning.

Home Guards hope for dignity of work, better salary



Mysuru, Mar. 24 (MK&SD)- Their slogan is 'Nishkam Seva' meaning Honorary Service. Trained in first aid, emergency relief and disaster management, they assist Police in various situations — all for a meagre salary of Rs. 380 per day.

The Indian Home Guard is a volunteer force tasked as an auxiliary to the State Police. The job of a Home Guard is considered voluntary service to the nation. However, in reality it is the only source of income for most Home Guards.

A pillar of support for the Police, Home Guards say it's them who have always suffered the most. Home Guards are governed by the Home Guard Department of the State and do not have a fixed monthly salary. They are instead paid on the basis of the number of days they have worked.

Originally established in 1946 in the erstwhile Bombay province after the Second World War, Home Guards were later conceived and raised to serve as auxiliary service to the Police and help maintain internal security all across the nation. Currently, there are 26,449 Home Guards (22,282 men and 4,167 women) in the State, of which 1,300 are serving in Mysuru district and 528 of them in city.

Home Guards manage traffic and assist Police to maintain law and order in situations such as bandobast during festivals and other such events. They also have to do night duties during emergency call-outs such as floods, election work, law emergency and other emergent tasks.

Wearing a Khaki dress, they do work hand-in-hand with Police force, but only once in a year, a Khaki pant and shirt and a pair of woollen socks are given to them and a belt once in two years. In case of wear and tear, they have to bear the cost. At most, a pair of shoes of any brand would last for one year but in their case, authorities provide them shoes once in four years. In the last 30 years, these basic amenities such as uniforms, shoes and belts have never reached them on time.

They control traffic under the scorching sun. But there is no medical facility available to them which the Police force has. In case of death while on duty, Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 lakh will be given to the dependents and in case of any accident while on duty, Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000 will be given as treatment expenditure. If they become 60% handicapped following such an accident, Rs. 2 lakh will be given. Home Guards work for a meagre salary of Rs. 380 per day. There is no provision of Provident Fund and no medical or accommodation facility.

According to the rule book, each Home Guard will be on duty only 60 days a year. But in practice, they are employed whenever necessary, throughout the year. In some cases, Police have even used them as orderlies and assigned the most menial tasks possible to them.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, a female Home Guard shared her plight. "We have a number of issues. While working in other towns or villages on duty such as election work and bandobast, accommodation facility is not available to us. Most of us are from poor families. What else we can do? We have to do our duty to earn some money and take care of our families," she said.

Recently, State Government had announced that wages of Home Guards will be raised to Rs. 750 per day, but this is applicable to only those who are doing duties that are reserved for Police Constables in the Police Department and wages for all the remaining Home Guards would continue as before.

Govt. approves Hale Unduwadi Drinking Water Project

G.T. Devegowda

Tanveer Sait

Byrathi Basavaraj

Bengaluru, Mar. 24 (KMS&DM)- Urban Development Minister Byrati Basavaraj said that the Government has approved the ambitious Rs.350 crore Hale Unduwadi Water Project aimed at supplying regular drinking water from KRS Backwaters to many localities of the city and 92 surrounding villages.

Replying to a query by Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda and NR MLA Tanveer Sait during the Legislative Assembly Session here recently, Byrati Basavaraj said that 30 acres and 31 Guntas of additional land required for the project is yet to be handed over to KUWS&DB (Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board), which is the executing agency. The KUWS&DB has decided to directly purchase 92 acre of private land for the execution of the project, he added.

He further said, there were no plans to form an exclusive Water Board for Mysuru on the lines of Bangalore Water Supply and

Sewerage Board (BWSSB) at Bengaluru. Referring to Mysuru Master Plan-2031, Basavaraj said that the KUWS&DB is working out a plan for a comprehensive UGD system in accordance with the plan.

Referring to handing over of MUDA Layouts to MCC, the Minister said that 62 layouts developed by MUDA and 79 private layouts have been handed over to the MCC. Noting that only 79 of the 100 private layouts have been handed over to the MCC, he said that these layouts will be provided with all necessary infrastructure at the earliest.

Pointing out that a Bengaluru-based agency has carried out a survey of street lights in Mysuru, Basavaraj said that street lighting will be taken up once the Government approves the Survey report.

He further said that at present, there are 56,218 street lights in MCC limits, out of which 53,382 are found working.

National POSHAN Abhiyaan, a 'Jan Andolan'

Mysuru, Mar. 24- National POSHAN Abhiyaan is not just a programme, it is a 'Jan Andolan (People's Movement)', which aims to free the nation from malnutrition and reach every household with the message of 'Nutrition.'

The goals of this Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of children from zero to six years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers in a time-bound manner. In an effort to achieve this goal, Department of Women and Child Development together with other units of the Government is creating awareness among women in particular pregnant women.

For pregnant women: Proper nutrition plays an important role in development of babies. Women who are in good health are more likely to give birth to a healthy baby. Pregnant women should consume nutrient food with fortified milk and iodised salt.

From fourth month to 100 days, they should take one Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) 'red' tablet and calcium supplements. Albendazole de-worming dose is to be taken only once during the second quarter of pregnancy. Throughout their pregnancy, Antenatal care (ANC) should start as early as possible in the first quarter, at least four times until delivery. They should also

maintain personal hygiene.

For lactating mothers: Initiating breastfeeding within one hour of birth ensures that the infant receives much needed 'yellow first milk', which is rich in nutrients and should be continued for the next six months. Lactating mothers should wash their hands thoroughly before eating. After six months, together with breast milk, the babies should start on complementary foods of smooth consistency. Babies should receive vaccination as per schedule and de-wormed twice in a year.

For adolescent girls: Girls, in particular during adolescence, should maintain hygiene during menstruation, drink clean water, consume iron-rich vegetables and once in a week take one Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) 'blue' tablet.

It is the responsibility of all citizens to join hands and eradicate malnutrition with National Nutrition Mission, a flagship programme of Ministry of Women and Child Development.

In the time of Frank Moraes, too

Point of VIEW

T.J.S. George

Love in the time of Cholera ended up with love winning; author Gabriel Marquez wouldn't have it any other way. **Struggle in the time of Corona is not that easily resolved because petty interests are involved. Donald Trump called it "Chinese Virus" although, in 2018, he took the irresponsible decision to fire the US Government's entire pandemic response chain of command. Some of his countrymen are collecting firearms.** Their reasoning: The virus crisis could lead to law and order problems with looting and robbing spreading everywhere. America always is America.

The way we respond to crisis situations sums up our personality, both as individuals and as a nation. When emergency situations stem from tragedy, the best of men are tested beyond their handling capacity. I have seen some of them doing their best to cope with problems even when they knew they were not succeeding. The famous *Times of India* editor **Frank Moraes** was caught in a family tragedy he could do nothing about. The distinguished M. Chalapathi Rao found himself pushed from the pinnacle of glory to a bottomless pit.

Frank Moraes was the ultimate gentleman, very proper in his interactions with others. Cub reporters would receive the same courtesy from him as the Prime Minister would. He faced embarrassments often for various reasons, but he tackled them with care and tact. When he became the first Indian editor of the *Times of India,* one of his first tasks was to have lunch with the new owner, Ramakrishna Dalmia. Moraes spoke no Hindi, Dalmia spoke no English, so an interpreter managed the conversation between editor and proprietor. Food was a bigger problem than conversation and the obligatory lunch became a labour of accommodation. Frank Moraes' son Dom put it this way: "Dalmia was served his vegetarian repast in silver dishes. My father received his in earthenware utensils, later broken in the courtyard outside in case they polluted Dalmia's caste. My father noticed this. It was an incident he never forgot."

It was not the only unforgettable incident. *Times of India's* properly British management had arranged for the dark-skinned Goan that was Moraes to eat his lunch in his own corner of the office, away from the British editors who formed the bulk of the writing staff and who had a dining room complete with table linen and uniformed butlers. Some enjoyed the pomp, but the younger British editorial hands saw it as racial discrimination and threatened to resign if it continued.

As he put up with all the goings-on, **Frank Moraes maintained his elegant smile, never giving a hint that his personal life was immersed in tragedy.** He had married Beryl for love. It did not take long for Beryl to lose her mental balance. Was Frank's long absences in Burma and beyond as war correspondent a factor behind this calamity? All we know is that Beryl could turn violent. She would chase Dom around the house with a kitchen knife. Dom as a boy usually accompanied his father to the *Times* office and we thought the father was training the son. In fact it was a case of their managing their private tragedy. Eventually Beryl was committed to a Bangalore asylum where, after many years, she died unknown, unremembered. By chance, it fell to me to inform Dom who came and supervised the last rites of his mother.

***Times of India's* properly British management had arranged for the dark-skinned Goan that was Moraes to eat his lunch in his own corner of the office, away from the British editors who formed the bulk of the writing staff and who had a dining room complete with table linen and uniformed butlers. Some enjoyed the pomp, but the younger British editorial hands saw it as racial discrimination and threatened to resign if it continued.**

For all his exterior calm, Frank Moraes was crushed within. His dependence on the bottle increased. By now, luckily for him, he had joined the *Indian Express.* Lucky because, when it became obvious that he was no longer in a position to function, Ramnath Goenka decided to take care of him. England was Moraes' dream country and Goenka sent him to London, with arrangements for his lodging and comforts. The care and upkeep provided by a humane proprietor continued until Moraes died in London, aged only 67.

Chalapathi Rao was not that lucky. Legendary friend of Jawaharlal Nehru, he was the face of the *National Herald* which was once an integral part of the freedom movement. He devoted his life to the *Herald.* Post-Nehru India treated him cruelly. Indira Gandhi handed over the *Herald* to Yashpal Kapur, described as a Nehru family retainer, which is euphemism for servant. **When servant turned into boss, the boss that was Chalapathi was reduced to servant. Summarily dismissed, too proud to seek help from friends, Chalapathi roamed the streets, unrecognised, until he perished, unknown.** The time of Cholera and the time of Corona are not as heartless as the time of inhumanity.

SNIFF OUT THE WORDS

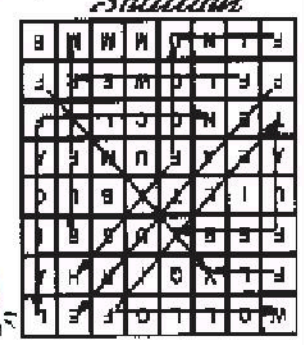
W	O	L	L	O	F	E	L
F	L	Y	Q	I	R	H	A
F	E	E	L	U	S	R	I
L	I	L	T	I	B	U	C
A	E	A	F	U	M	F	A
T	E	N	O	C	L	A	F
F	F	L	O	W	E	R	F
F	I	N	D	M	M	M	B

Can you find all the words starting with 'F' hidden in the puzzle? You must look up, down, left, right and diagonally to find them.

The words to look for are:

FACIAL
FALCON
FAMILY
FARM
FEATURE
FEEL
FILLET
FIND
FISH
FLAT
FLOWER
FLY
FOLLOW
FOOD
FUR

Solution



PAWS FOR A RIDDLE

What would you call two bananas?

A pair of slippers.

Where can you always find diamonds?

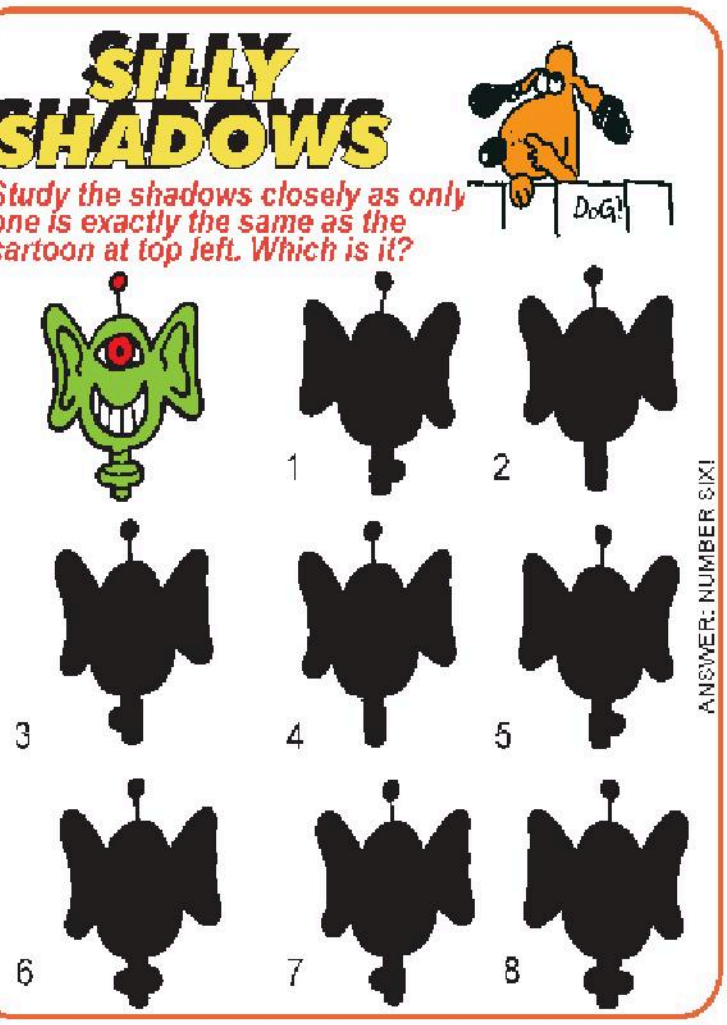
In a deck of cards.

What is a dentist's office?

A filling station.

SILLY SHADOWS

Study the shadows closely as only one is exactly the same as the cartoon at top left. Which is it?



ANSWER: NUMBER SIX!

Not only commodity, precaution too is 'essential'

Even as State-wide lockdown has been imposed in view of COVID-19 outbreak, some essential commodities have to be supplied to public and milk is one such that falls under Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Picture right shows a vendor at a Nandini outlet in J.P. Nagar in city wearing a mask as a safety measure with milk being everyday requirement, the place sees a huge rush every morning and evening. People in general are advised to take precautionary measures when they are out on necessity too.

Legal action if masks, sanitisers sold at higher rates

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (KS)- Following COVID-19 scare, the Central Government has fixed Rs. 8 for two ply masks, Rs. 10 for three ply masks and Rs. 100 for a 200ml bottle of sanitiser. Despite the Centre fixing the rates, complaints of masks and sanitisers being sold at exorbitant prices are being received.

Hence, legal action would be initiated against those found selling masks and sanitisers at higher prices and instead of levying penalty as done earlier, cases would be registered under Essential Commodities Act and action would be initiated against them, according to Mysuru Circle Legal Metrology Department Assistant Controller K.M. Mahadevaswamy.

Medical store fined Rs.5,000

Mysuru, Mar. 24- A medical store at N.R. Mohalla here, which was found selling masks and sanitisers at exorbitant rate, has been fined Rs. 5,000.

The medial store was found selling Rs. 10 mask at Rs. 25 and was charging Rs. 210 per bottle of sanitiser instead of Rs. 50.

Legal Metrology Department Assistant Controller K.M. Mahadevaswamy and staff Nityanand and Rajendra, raided the medical store yesterday and imposed the fine on the owner.

Spurious sanitisers confiscated

Mysuru, Mar. 24 (SBD) - With the demand for hand sanitisers increasing due to the Coronavirus scare, it has come to light that some people are trying to cash in on the soaring demand by selling spurious hand sanitisers in Mysuru.

A person who was selling fake sanitizer in city has been arrested by Legal Metrology Department recently and the manufacturing unit has also been raided.

As per the guidelines issued by District Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar, Department staff headed by K.M. Mahadevaswamy has confiscated spurious sanitisers.

Posing themselves as buyers, officials have contacted the fake sanitiser seller on mobile phone.

Later, the Department staff have arrested the culprit when he came to meet them at Vivekananda Circle in city, believing that they are genuine buyers.

The officials have seized 100 bottles of fake hand sanitiser products of 100 ml each, which he was selling for Rs. 100 each.

Based on the information provided the culprit, team of Drug Control Officer B.P. Arun and Mahadevaswamy, have raided a factory at Metagalli allegedly manufacturing fake hand sanitiser and seized the chemicals. It is learnt that the manufacturing unit which is owned by a person who is a Chennai resident was manufacturing floor cleaning materials.

Since the virus outbreak, demand for hand sanitisers has sky-rocketed. As a result, spurious hand sanitisers are being sold in the market by many miscreants so as to make quick money.

St. Philomena's College prepares sanitiser for staff, students

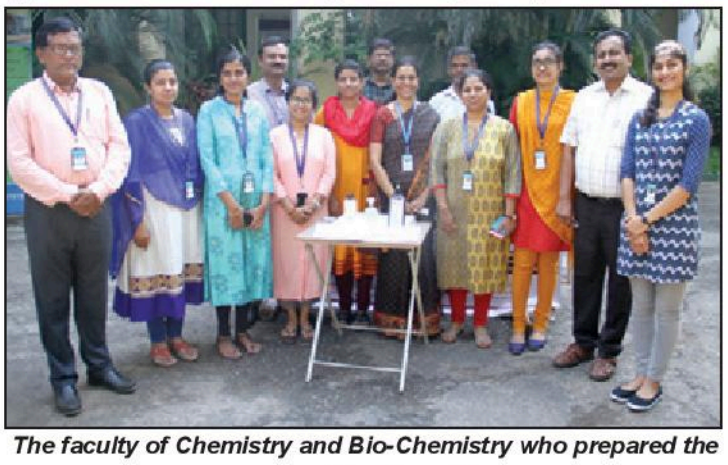
Rev. Dr. Bernard Prakash Barnis, Rector, is seen giving sanitiser sample to Dr. T. Ruth Shantha Kumari, Principal.

Mysuru, Mar. 24 - In the wake of a huge shortage of hand sanitisers amid rising fears of COVID-19 community transmission in city, St. Philomena's College in city has manufactured hand sanitiser in its own laboratories and has distributed the same to its staff and students for free.

The Departments of Chemistry and Bio-Chemistry of the College, in a bid to overcome the shortage, have prepared the cleansing solution by using in-house alcohol and other chemicals.

After a few rounds of trial and error, they prepared two to three types of solutions. The teaching staff later consulted others and finally the best sample was selected and distributed to staff and faculty members who had come to the college to register their attendance.

Chemistry Department Head Dr. Ravi J.D. Saldanha said that there are non-teaching and Group-D employees who earn very little and cannot afford to buy sanitisers by paying Rs. 100 or more; Hence, it was decided to prepare sanitiser at the College laboratory and distribute it to the staff free of cost. He added that if needed the College would prepare and distribute the sanitiser to the general public.



The faculty of Chemistry and Bio-Chemistry who prepared the sample of hand-sanitiser.

Lockdown scenes in Mysuru

While State Government announced complete lockdown of all the districts across the State till Mar.31 in order to contain deadly Coronavirus outbreak, Mysuru, which has also reported two COVID-19 positive cases so far, this morning was witness to lathi-wielding Police clearing the people who were out on streets though a curfew-like situation prevailed, Pourakarmikas on their regular work cleaning the city thoroughfares. While some roads were deserted, some others saw usual morning walkers and vehicular traffic. On one side people lined up for Police checking, the other side witnessed people waiting in front of supermarkets maintaining social distance.

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